

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for carefully considering this application and indicating the application has allowable subject matter.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-2 and 4-26 were pending in the present patent application. By way of this reply, claims 7-25 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 26, which have been deemed allowable by the Examiner, are now pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6, and 26 are independent¹. The remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

Drawings

Applicants are filing a Submission of Formal Drawings (with replacement sheets for all drawings merely correcting formalities) separately from this Reply and respectfully request that the Examiner consider the replacement drawing sheets prior to the next action and accept the drawings.

Objection to the Specification

The specification has been objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, Claims 7-25 are objected for failing to clearly define the term "computer readable medium." By way of this reply, claims 7-25 have been cancelled and, thus, the objection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

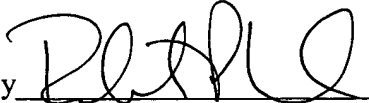
Claims 7-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. By way of this reply, claims 7-25 have been cancelled and, thus, this rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

¹ Applicants have amended claim 6 to read as an independent claim. Amended independent claim 6, which contains at least the same limitations as claim 1, continues to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Because the claims as amended only include three independent claims, Applicant asserts that no additional fee is required.

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. If a fee is due, please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17245/007004).

Dated: June 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Robert P. Lord
Registration No.: 46,479
OSHA • LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant

158316_1